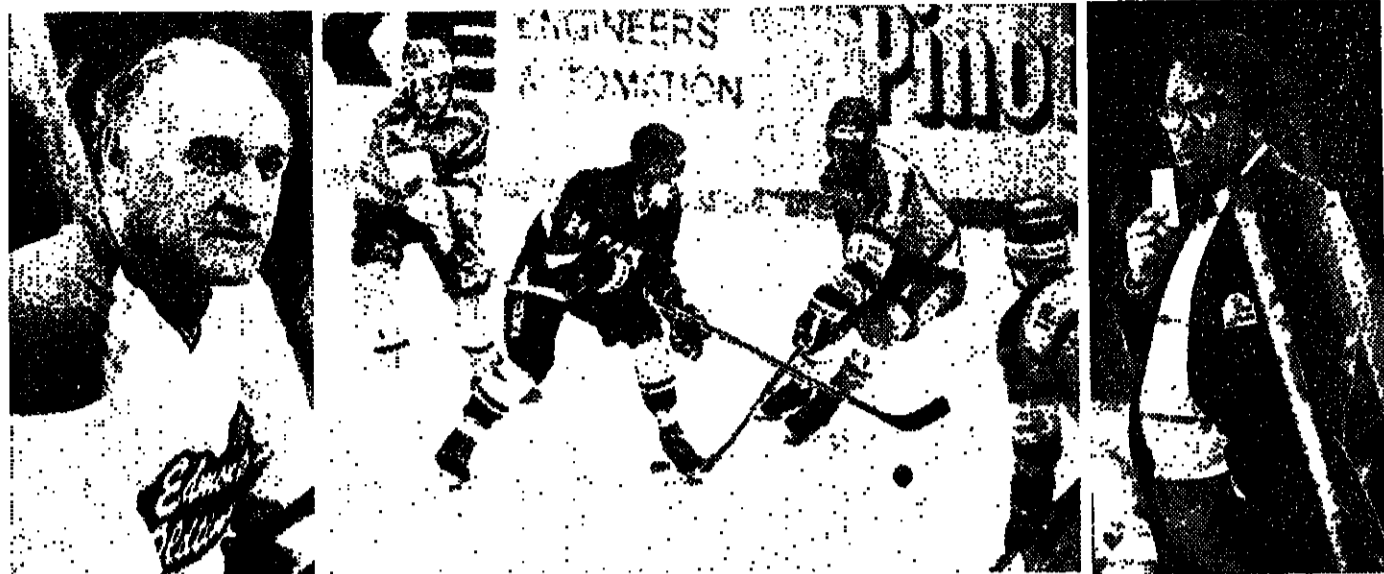


SPORTS



Roy Kinasevich—playing coach of the Edmonton Oilers. ● It is hard to contain the leading attacker in the USSR team Sergei Makarov (No. 24). This is a scene from the USSR-Sweden game which the former won 10-0. ● Left Boork, Sweden's senior coach, guiding the moves of his players.



Every match a mystery

Even the good-natured Snowman, the mascot of the International "Izvestia" Prize tournament this time refrained from forecasting the results of the matches. There were too many now players in the teams which participated in this year's 18th "Izvestia" tournament at the Palace of Sport in Luzhiki, Moscow. Between December 16 and 21, the Prize was contested by the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Finland and West Germany. It was only on the last day of play that the tournament table finally assumed its proper order, which emphasizes the intensity of the contests. Contestants in the final matches were the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Finland and West Germany. We shall sum up the results of the tournament next time, as the decisive matches were played at the time of going to press. Meanwhile, we will draw the attention of hockey fans to the fact that this year's tournament produced a crop of sensations, revealed new star players, while specialists note the ever growing standards in the world hockey, all of which promise most exciting contests in the world and European championships to be staged next year in Prague.

MEET LEIF BOORK

We usually introduce new coaches to hockey fans. This

time, the new name is Leif Boork, who stood at the head of the Swedish team this year. Unlike his two predecessors, he is little known in his country as a player, but more as a coach. He has two daughters who dance and play handball, and his son naturally wants to become a hockey player. Boork is on a three-year contract with the national team. Earlier he taught Swedish language and social sciences. He sees his credo as a coach in raising the prestige of amateur hockey in Sweden and in making Sweden

one of the main favourites in the biggest world events. He believes that the Soviet team is one of the best and says that the most successful new trio at the tournament were Svetlov, Samonov and Yashin.

RAY KINASEWICH'S PROPOSAL

Meetings between veterans of Soviet and Canadian hockey are becoming a regular thing. This time, the Edmonton players were guests in this country. The matches were played in Leningrad, Minsk, Kiev and the final match was part of the "Izvestia" tournament in Moscow. Although the Soviet Union led in all the games, the playing coach of the Canadian team, 53-year-old businessman, Ray Kinasevich, was satisfied with his Soviet tour. He had no regrets about putting off all his business to travel to the USSR.

In the past, he was both a player and a coach in Canada's professional hockey. His life in hockey was linked with the Detroit Red Wings club.

Our matches attract many spectators, which means that they are impressive, Kinasevich said in a conversation. Fans come to meet their favourite hockey players of different years, and we see these matches, apart from the pleasure we get on the ice, as an opportunity to expand the friendly contacts between the two countries, and to talk to each other on the subjects which concern us both. I think that the hockey federations of our two countries ought to consider holding matches between the national teams made up of the participants of the famous superseries from 1972 to 1974.

Alexander BUTSENIN
Photos by Andrei Knyazev

Prizes—to best Soviet gymnasts

The best Soviet gymnasts of 1984 are Muscovites Olga Mostepanova and Dmitriy Bilozerchev. Olga, a ninth-former from the 220th Moscow school, will be awarded the traditional prize of the "Soviet Woman" magazine. In the main contest of the season—the International Friendship-84 tournament held in the Czechoslovak town of Olomouc—the charge of coach Vladimir Aksyonov managed on the day of the overall finals to score a stunning result—40 points from a 40 possible.

Dmitriy Bilozerchev who is in his first year at the military institute of physical culture, won

the prize of the "Moloday Komunist" magazine for the second year running. Like Mostepanova, he won the Friendship-84 meet with an unusual sum of points—119.30 from 120. Like in the world championship, to the overall win he added three top awards in the pommel horse, the rings and the horizontal bar.

Moscow Dynamo, which recently won the European Water Polo Cup Holders Cup, beat Hungarian Vassas, European Champions Cup holders, 15-9, in Barcelona to win the Super Cup.

● A tense moment of the match.



Defence triumphed

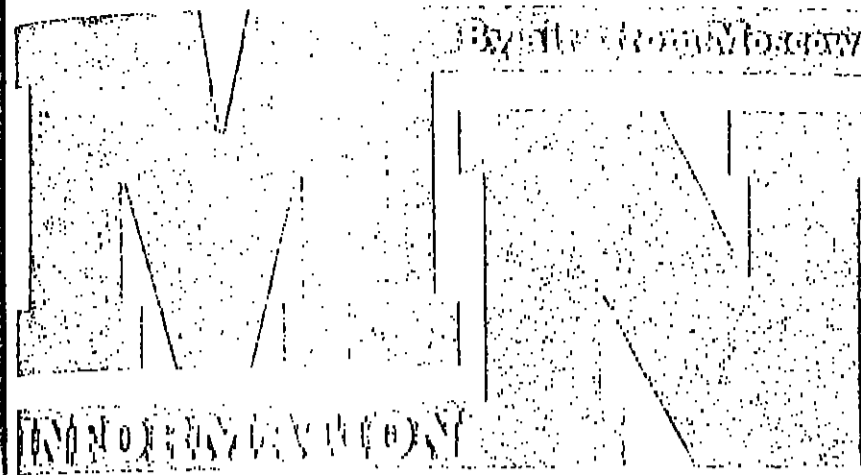
One more spectacular achievement has been recorded in the Moscow world chess title match. Anatoly Karpov and Garry Kasparov (both of the USSR) have already played 34 games—just as many games as were played by the great Russian master Alexander Alekhine and Cuban Jose Raul Capablanca in 1927 in Buenos Aires. This was a long match by the records. After the 34th game Karpov still led 5-1. The two last games ended in draws. In both the 33rd and 34th games defence triumphed.

ZURBRIGGEN BOUND FOR HIS GOAL

The holder of the Crystal Globe for the victory in last year's world skiing cup Nanni Zurbriggen of Switzerland claimed at the start of the season he intended to keep the prize. And though he performs not as well as last year, he continues to lead the "race" with 85 points in the downhill in Val Gardena, Italy. Mark Girardelli of Luxembourg has 70 points, and Robert Erbacher of Italy and Martin Hangl of Switzerland have 58 each.

The younger of the Polish twin sisters Dorota Talska was her first cup stage. In Malsbana di Campiglio (Italy) she confidently won the special slalom. Dropping out were such stars as Erika Hess of Switzerland, American Tamara McKinney, Italian Maria Rosa Quario and Paulette Migonni.

The next day's giant slalom was won by Marina Klebl of West Germany, who did well in the World Series before the season. She now leads the tables with 67 points. Has less 58 and lesser known Swiss racer Brigitte Oerli has 54 points.



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SAYING FAREWELL TO MARSHAL USTINOV

Moscow has paid its last respects to a Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, Marshal of the Soviet Union, Dmitry Ustinov.

For two days, Ustinov's body lay in state in the Hall of Columns in the House of the Trade Unions where people came in an endless procession to pay tribute to the prominent statesman. Standing in a vigil of mourning were General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolai Tikhonov, and other leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet Government.

In June 1941, D. Ustinov was appointed the USSR People's Commissar of Armaments at the age of 32. During the war he did a lot to facilitate victory over Germany and the Japanese militarism.

In April 1976, D. Ustinov was appointed USSR Defence Minister, a post he held until the last days of his life.

The Soviet people and the armed forces saw in D. Ustinov a person of unshakable loyalty to duty, immense capacity for work, and imbued with the ability to fundamentally tackle set goals, said G. Romanov, Member of the Politburo, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the mourning meeting in Red Square.

On that frosty day in December, thousands of working people in Moscow gathered to pay tribute to D. Ustinov. Also present were members of foreign military delegations who arrived in Moscow to attend Marshal D. Ustinov's funeral, as well as diplomatic missions accredited in Moscow and military attaches at foreign embassies.



The funeral procession heading towards the Kremlin Wall.

Battle banners reclinod above columns of army units.

On behalf of Muscovites, a Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the CPSU Moscow City Committee, V. Grishin, bid farewell to Marshal Ustinov.

He placed the interests of our Motherland and the Soviet people above all else. We are gripped and full of sorrow at the thought that we no longer have with us this man who had tremendous energy and unbending will.

A Red Army soldier, a worker, a design engineer, and a director of a large factory—these are all milestones in D. Ustinov's glorious biography, Marshal of the Soviet Union, Sergei Sokolov, noted in his speech.

Most complex problems of designing, testing and mass production of various types of weapons were solved under D. Ustinov's leadership. In the post-war years, he devoted all his talent and profound knowledge to strengthening economic and defence capabilities of this country and to Soviet rocket-building and space exploration.

On behalf of delegations from the armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries, the meeting in Red Square was addressed by General D. Dzhurov, Defence Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Tackling the important tasks of consolidating combatant cooperation between our countries, D. Ustinov always proceeded

from the premise of common international interests. We are well aware that in the present international situation the creative activities of the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries will be reliably safeguarded and the struggle for lasting peace on earth will be more successful if our unity is stronger, if our battle ranks are more formidable, and if the combat preparedness of our armies is higher.

The urn with D. Ustinov's remains was put into a niche in the Kremlin Wall. An orchestra sounded the Soviet Union's Anthem. In their last respects to Marshal of the Soviet Union, D. Ustinov, Soviet Army units marched through Red Square in a solemn procession.

Joint space probe started

Following the heels of the Vega-1 station, an automatic unmanned space station Vega-2 is now on its flight towards Venus. On board both stations are scientific instruments for exploration under the programme of the international project: Venus-Halley's Comet. During the first stage of the flight the stations will reach the vicinity of Venus next June and take joint measurements in two of its areas. They will then enter a new trajectory to meet Halley's Comet in March 1986. Rostislav Sagdeyev, Director of the Institute of Space Research, discusses the salient features of the space programme:

In conjunction with Soviet scientists, specialists from Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, France, the FRG and Czechoslovakia are taking part in this international project.

Chosen for the project was the serial station of the Venus-type, the previous flights of which made it possible to obtain unique information about the planet. In the flights of the Vega stations, these studies will be continued under a new programme. An aerostatic probe will detach itself from the descent module during the descent and drift in the Venusian clouds at a height of nearly fifty kilometres. The

probe's instruments will measure the temperature, pressure and density of the cloud layer.

The Vega-1 and Vega-2 stations will for the first time study Halley's Comet directly. It is planned to obtain television pictures of the nucleus of the comet from the flight path at different distances in the comet, the closest being ten thousand kilometres. The television device will also trace the direction of the nucleus of the comet so as to secure other precise measurements. Spectrometer developed by Bulgarian, French and Soviet specialists will explore the chemical composition of the different parts of the comet. A magnetometer made in Austria will measure the comet's magnetic field, while the composition of the atmosphere of the comet will be analysed with the help of an instrument designed with the participation of Hungarian specialists. Reception and processing of information about Halley's Comet will undoubtedly enrich the scientific activities of all the countries participating in the project.

SOVIET-CHINESE TALKS

Peking. First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov and Vice-Premier of the Chinese State Council, Yao Yilin, have discussed and reached accord on issues relating to the conclusion of an agreement on economic, technical and scientific cooperation, and the setting up of a Soviet-Chinese commission on economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation.

In the first half of 1985 a long-term agreement on trade and payments for 1986-1990 will also be signed. In this connection, appropriate talks will be held between the respective organizations of the two countries in the first quarter of next year. They also exchanged ideas on bilateral relations.

Ivan Arkhipov was received by members of the Standing Committee of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Premier of the Chinese State Council Zhao Ziyang. The two sides discussed further bilateral economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation.

Ivan Arkhipov extended an invitation to Yao Yilin to visit the USSR. In 1985 which was accepted with gratitude.

caused to national culture and education.

● A glass fibre production line is now in operation at the Helwan metallurgical complex built with Soviet technical and economic assistance. The line, which costs 15 million Egyptian pounds, will produce 5,000 tonnes of glass fibre annually.



This Belarus tractor was made in India. Production of the Belarus tractor model has been launched at a factory in Patna, the industrial city near New Delhi, under Soviet licence.

Gratitude to the Soviet Government

New York. Barbara Dersso, Deputy Commissioner of the Commission on Assistance and Reconstruction, has expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet Government and people for the timely and timely assistance they have given to the Ethiopian people to help them overcome the consequences of the prolonged drought. Speaking at a press conference at the UN Headquarters he pointed out as particularly important the role played by vehicles and planes placed at Ethiopia's disposal by the Soviet Union. Soviet planes and helicopters deliver most of the emergency food and other aid to most remote areas hit by the drought.

For reliable securing of the international line in the ports of Ilyichovsk and Havana powerful specialized transport complexes have been created. The dock workers of Ilyichovsk will handle until the end of the year above the plan nearly one hundred thousand cargoes designed for Cuba. This is equal to additional sending into route of eight ships.

From Ilyichovsk to Cuba

Before its term leaves on its route to Cuba every ship banding at the berths of the Ilyichovsk port on the Black Sea. Ahead of schedule have been sent out a short while ago two minor vessels—the "Metallurg Kuznetsov" and "Iona Yakur". On their board are 25 thousand tonnes of cargoes.

With the sending out of these ships, the Black Sea Shipping Company has fulfilled the yearly plan for the Soviet-Cuban trade

FACTS AND EVENTS

● According to ANSA news agency, the Prime Minister of Malta Dominick Minhof has resigned. His successor is Carmelo Mizzi Bonello, who was senior Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister.

● At a ceremony in the Peruvian capital of Lima, a park has been named after Indian Gandhi. A memorial plaque was unveiled in honour of the glorious daughter of the Indian people.

● A supreme council on information has been set up in Algeria. One of its main functions is to disseminate information on the country's foreign policy, which is one of lasting peace and friendship among peoples.

● A noted Chilean cultural activist has sent an open letter to the General Secretary of UNESCO requesting him to condemn the Pinochet military dictatorship for the harm it has

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Reagan meets Thatcher

Washington. Ronald Reagan recently held a meeting with the British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, at his Camp David residence. The two leaders discussed preparations towards the forthcoming Soviet-American talks on mutually acceptable agreements on the entire range of issues involved in nuclear and space weapons. The British Prime Minister said that she welcomed the talks.

At a press conference prior to her return to London, Margaret Thatcher stated that she told Ronald Reagan about her impressions of the recent visit to Britain by the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Mikhail Gorbachev. Mrs. Thatcher described the talks with M. Gor-

bachov as a constructive, realistic, businesslike and friendly exchange of views.

She said she supported US scientific-technical efforts aimed at gaining the so-called initiative in strategic defence. At the same time she said she opposed the deployment of an anti-missile system as part of the "star wars" programme. She said the production and deployment of such systems would violate the Soviet-American Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems and the 1967 Treaty of Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies.

Preserving universal peace

Rome. Speaking to foreign diplomats, Italian President Alessandro Pertini dwelt on problems of disarmament and East-West dialogue.

Urging the USSR and the USA to start dialogue, the president charged that "the world's future depended on Washington and Moscow". He urged both great

powers to cooperate for the sake of preserving universal peace, just as they cooperated in World War II to prevent fascist dictatorship being established in Europe.

An outbreak of a new war, he continued, would be the last. It would result in a disaster which would engulf the entire planet.

Islamic conference: Israel must withdraw

Sanaa. Foreign ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference member-states recently held a meeting here. It was attended by representatives of 45 Muslim nations who reiterated that the main conditions for a comprehensive and fair settlement of the Middle East conflict are the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied

Arab lands and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arabs to self-determination and an independent state. They condemned the US policy in the Middle East, the so-called strategic alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv, as well as the Camp David accord and other related versions of Middle East settlement.



I am also an owner of similar "real estates" in Los Angeles, Boston, New York...

Drawing by Konstantin Rybalko

RESPONSE Logic from Washington

If your life is threatened by someone, hasten to eliminate him first. This is a maxim from the Talmud which the American State Secretary, George Shultz, repeats each time he wants to justify the policy of state terrorism which the Reagan administration is carrying out against progressive regimes which do not toe Washington's line.

According to Shultz, the United States is threatened by the Nicaraguans who have embarked on a road to independent national development, the Kampuchians who have put an end to genocide, and the Afghans who have freed themselves from feudal backwardness. If we are to follow this logic, the greatest danger for the United States was tiny Grenada. But can a sober-minded

person believe in that Washington's aggression in Central America as well as its undeclared wars there and elsewhere are to forestall ill schemes against itself?

Shultz is not alone in his attempts to mislead the public opinion. President Reagan has described his crusade against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries as a programme of democracy and public diplomacy. Behind this display of high-sounding words are attempts at reversing the objective process in the development of human society. In order not to be bound foot and hand, the United States abstained from voting at the 39th General Assembly the resolution on "Non-Admissibility of the Policy of State Terrorism and Any Actions by States Aimed at

Elections in India

New Delhi. General elections to the House of the People (lower chamber) of Parliament—the eighth convocation—were started in India. Eligible to vote are nearly 380 million Indians, nearly twenty million of whom have just reached voting age and are voting for the first time.

On the first day 275 million voters will vote in 389 constituencies of 22 States and six Union Territories. The 4,073 candidates include Chairman of the Indian National Congress (I)—the ruling party, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, 22 Ministers of the Indian Government, and prominent opposition leaders. Preliminary results of the elections will be known by midnight of December 28.

Voting has been cancelled in Punjab and Assam in view of the serious situation there. Neither will it take place in some districts in a number of other states and in the Union Territory of Mizoram, where the only candidate from the INC (I) has no opponents. In ten constituencies in Uttar Pradesh the elections will be held on December 24 and 27.

Undermining the Socio-Political Systems in Other States". The draft of this resolution, tabled by the Soviet Union, was approved by 117 countries.

Americans themselves recently realized the tendency on the part of officials in Washington to juggle with words and to turn facts upside down. The national council of English language teachers has even instituted a symbolic "Word Juggling" prize. It has been announced that the top prizes went to the State Department, the Pentagon and the CIA.

As for Shultz quoting from the Talmud, George Ball, an experienced political leader and Assistant Secretary of State in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, perceives these words as concealing attempts to introduce lynching on international arena.

Igor DANILIN

Union Carbide licence won't be renewed

New Delhi. The government of the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh has refused to renew for 1985 the operation licence of the American Union Carbide company plant in the town of Bhopal. The official notification states that the decision stemmed from crude violations of safety measures at the plant.

Investigation revealed that for a long time experiments, which were far outside the framework of technological processes, were conducted at the plant. It was found that such development of toxic chemicals and their testing in tropical conditions were carried out in high secrecy. Their importance for the corporation lies in the fact that "just construction" of the plant in India cost only 150 million Indian rupees, the construction of the laboratory swallowed 200 million.

For many years now Union Carbide has been one of Pakistan's major subcontractors in the development of new type of chemical weapons.

An important step in this direction would be freezing nuclear arms both quantitatively and qualitatively, and creating nuclear-free zones in various parts of the continent.

total action is mounting in Spain against the country's NATO membership. Sponsored by the General Union of workers, people and workers' committees, public conferences, rallies and demonstrations are held in many cities demanding that the government fulfill its election promises of a referendum on Spain's membership in NATO. Over 600,000 people attended an anti-war demonstration in Madrid (photo) chanting "No to NATO", "Down With the Basque Neutrality!"

AN UNESCO programmes will be fulfilled

Paris. The Director-General of UNESCO deeply regrets the US withdrawal from UNESCO, issues a statement by UNESCO deputy director-general Gerald Gola. He specially regrets the fact that the decision of the US administration was taken at a time when UNESCO's leading roles have done a lot to improve its operation, the state-of-the-art of the organization, of which the UNESCO secretariat was formally informed by the 15 permanent representative, all programmes of the organization will be fulfilled. Gola said.

'Unwanted' persons

Buenos Aires. Pinochet has barred entry to a group of Chilean political émigrés, among them prominent leaders of the late Salvador Allende's government, "unwanted" persons and leaders of 33 national unity political parties. Following a fascist coup in September 1973, many of them were thrown behind prison bars, underwent torture, thrown into concentration camps, and finally deported from Chile. Their names appear on a long list of "undesirable" persons. Members of this group repeatedly requested official permission to return to Chile. They flew in at Santiago airport, but each time agents of the Pinochet security police prevented them from even stepping on the soil of their motherland.

FACTS and EVENTS

© The Common Market countries annually import five thousand tonnes of frog legs, favoured food for the French, Belgians and people in other countries. Half of the imports come from India and Pakistan.

© Israel is putting into effect a new plan calculated to cement illegal occupation of seized Arab lands. It has started the construction of strategic motorways to link major populated centres in the occupied areas. In order to build 560 kilometres of roads, the Israelis intend to confiscate 7,000 hectares of land belonging to indigenous Arabs.

© The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has protested to Pakistan over new acts of aggression committed in the border areas of Afghanistan.

Ro-ro supership

A second ro-ro river ship unique in its capabilities will, in the next few months, start operating between the West German cities of Köln and Rotterdam, Holland. It has five cargo decks, and can carry up to 850 cars on board at a time.

The "Ingona", as the ship's builders call it, has a bigger carrying capacity than its predecessor, the "Terra", which was launched last August.



Science and technology

BULLDOZER FROM THE SKIES

An American firm is working on a parachute system with engine brakes that will ensure the dropping of cargo weighing up to thirty tonnes from planes flying ninety metres high. The system is to be equipped with a minicomputer for determining height and speed and for controlling the brakes. It is designed for dropping cars, lorries, bulldozers, graders and other equipment.

As the plane approaches the dropping site, cargo hatches open, and a pilot parachute let out. It in turn produces up to eight other parachutes 19.5 metres in diameter. In the lower part of the cords, 10.7 metres above the cargo, is an assembly of three to seven solid-fuel jet engines with inclined nozzles. They are triggered by a computer three to nine metres above the earth (depending on the speed and the weight of the cargo).

A POCKET TELEPHONE

Telephone booths in France, which are constantly damaged by "street vandals", will possibly soon disappear altogether and give way to portable telephones which could be plugged into special street sockets, reports the Bulgarian "Parallel" weekly. The French Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications is forced every year to repair 165,000 booths on the average. Damage caused by "vandals" is worth nearly 320 million French francs a year. Money also disappears from the

telephone boxes, sums which are impossible to accurately determine. This is why the ministry is now testing a new type of pocket telephone which has the size of a small calculator. When you need to make a call you only take out the apparatus from the pocket or a lady's bag, plug it into a socket in the street or at a bus stop. And no problems with coins whatsoever.

NEW IN THE BIOGRAPHY OF THE PLANET

Geologists consider that the age of the Earth is 4.6 thousand million years. They proceed from the fact that most ancient rocks found so far contain 3.9 thousand million years. However, thanks to the finds made recently in Western Australia, scientists will probably have to revise this theory. In the area of the Australian town of Meekatharra, rocks have been found which are nearly 4.2 thousand million years old, consequently, the Earth had a solid "shell" 300 million years earlier than it was previously considered.

AGAIN THE PROBLEM OF COAL

American engineers are trying to build an engine that would work on a mixture of coal and water. They have built an experimental installation but it is too bulky for ordinary lorries. According to experts, serial production of such an engine will start in about 60 years' time.

Siamese twins separated

Manila. For nine months since they were born, the twin girls have not seen each other's faces. That was because when Maria, as the journalists are joking now, faced the south, Mary looked to the north, as nature had grown their heads together.

Operations on humans skulls are not simple even in their pure form. It is much more difficult to separate one skull from another. However, Filipino sur-

geons have splendidly coped with the task. The operation lasted for ten hours. The happy and relieved their 27-year-old mother Rita Rasco when her daughters were brought home. Their behaviour is no different from that of any other children. During their "joint life" they evolved some common habits. They fall asleep at the same time and wake up on the same instant.

With the parents' permission, the operation was filmed.

OF INTEREST

What will the lamps tell

Europe's only museum of lamps has been opened in Zsambék near Budapest, the Hungarian capital.

Kerosene lamps first appeared in Europe in the early 18th century. A visitor to the museum will easily see the owner of each lamp. A lamp made of majolica obviously, in the house of a comfortable and well-to-do urban dweller, a delicate one made of porcelain served a rich man, while peasants and poorer people

used lamps made of ordinary glass. The most valuable lamps in the collection are placed in the museum's window. Among them is a lamp made from an old Chinese vase, a photographic camera and an oil pump of which only seven have been found throughout the world.

Robot against fire

A "superfireman" has been designed by Japanese specialists. Although outwardly it does not look like a man, it nevertheless has the sense of hearing, touch and sight, which help it distinguish various objects. The

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

THOUGHTS ON THE EVE OF GENEVA

In connection with the forthcoming meeting in Geneva between Andrei Gromyko and George Shultz, Alexander Bovin writes in IZVESTIA:

I am bewildered by this circumstance: I would very much like to believe that the Americans go to Geneva with serious intentions. But how are they to be reconciled with the multi-billion programmes for boosting nuclear missiles or the decision of the NATO winter session aiming for a new stage of the arms race in Europe? Logic cannot be tricked. Either or — titulum non datum. Either a serious approach to cutting arms and the consequent need for stopping the arms race, or the continuation of the "modernization" of the nuclear missile potential of death, including a Penetration of space as it were—but why then to delude oneself and others by talk of disarmament? Possibly, Washington would try to bring these two approaches together—which is the thing that baffles me, the article points out.

BAN TERRORISM

The resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly directed at prevention of the policy of state terrorism is the subject for a commentary in the newspaper, PRAVDA, whose author Igor Mininikov writes:

The question about the state terrorism was examined by the world community as a most important and urgent issue. Why has this problem become so topical now? The answer lies in the events of the recent times when in relations between countries state terrorism and military actions against the sovereignty and political independence of countries and peoples have increasingly often been resorted to. In front of the eyes of the entire world criminal actions are perpetrated on different scale, by single states and by groups of countries, and there are occasions when they are committed with a broad participation of armed forces of several states. The unceremonious American intervention in Grenada, in Lebanon, and in Nicaragua—are these not glaring acts of state terrorism?

DECEPTION

A few days ago, writes S. Karaganov in the NEW TIMES magazine, NATO has given its final stamp of approval to and adopted as its official policy the Rogers Doctrine which boils down to the following: the bloc shifts its emphasis on the designing of conventional weapons.

The supporters of the new doctrine speculate on the growing anti-nuclear sentiments in Western Europe, and on the desire among the broad sections of the public to reduce the threat of nuclear war. That is why their arguments have been often based on the assumption that the doctrine will admittedly lead to a higher nuclear threshold.

The attempts by the NATO propagandists to justify their plans and actions by the desire to raise the nuclear threshold is deception of the first order. If new conventional weapons systems are resorted to, the losses and the destruction from them will be quite comparable with those from tactical nuclear weapons. It is also doubtful that the conventional weapon strikes will inevitably be dealt against the positions of the carriers of nuclear ammunition, which is recognized by the realistically thinking Western experts. The new conventional weapons systems will, on the contrary, lead to the erosion of the nuclear threshold. S. Karaganov concludes.

WHEN AUTHORITIES LOOK THE OTHER WAY

V. Nikanorov writes in the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper of the support given by West Germany to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

Every year Bonn gives 60 million marks to the Afghan counter-revolution. Large funds are also given to the military regime of Pakistan for continuing the undeclared war against Democratic Afghanistan. West Germany is a haven for various anti-Afghan organizations conducting a slanderous campaign against Afghanistan. The Afghan counter-revolutionaries entrenched in West Germany even made an attack on the Afghan Embassy in Bonn, the author points out.

West German authorities look the other way as regards the activities of the counter-revolutionary anti-Afghan groups and even encourage the creation of self-styled organizations with similar goals.

Dog shoots hunter

This unusual incident happened in Italy. On the day when the hunting season began, 29-year-old Giovanni Vettore was wounded with a gun when his own dog pressed the trigger.

When Giorgio and two of his friends were preparing for hunting, the dog, which seemed to be wild, kept wandering under them. One of the friends was lying on the ground. The dog touched his hand and it went off shooting the man.

Easy to confuse

Still, members of the Belgian meteorological institute were baffled when their satellite photograph registered earth tremors. Where was the earthquake? They wondered. A thorough examination of the information showed that the source of the tremors was plain of hand.

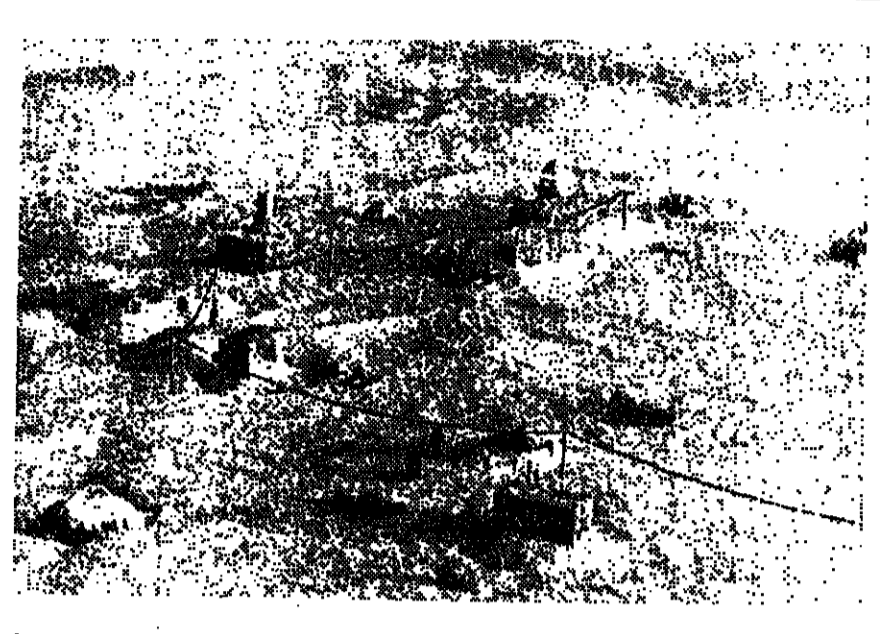
STATIONS ON DRIFTING ICE FLOES

The waters of the Arctic Ocean have been criss-crossed by a dense network formed by the drifting routes of the Soviet exploration stations, Severnyy Polyus (The North Pole). The first one of these, the SP-1, appeared in the Arctic in 1937. Over the past thirty years, the SP stations have travelled the total of more than 130 thousand kilometers.



● Yu. Balalayev, meteorologist of the Polar exploration station SP-22 at his instrument for measuring solar radiation.

The conditions in which the Polar explorers are working are severe. They face strong winds, severe frosts, the lengthy Polar night, the rapid thawing of snow and ice in summer, all of which complicate the conduct of their exploration. The main danger for the people working on ice is the packing of ice and fissures in the ice floes on which the stations are based. Dur-



● The Polar exploration station SP-25.

ing the drifting by all the Soviet stations, their lives have been subjected to break-ups on 600 occasions. Tens of times such cracks have made them move their camps to a new place.

A drifting station is a well-organized settlement. In its tasks and programmes for work each represents a scientific and exploratory laboratory in the fullest sense of the word. The range of explorations which specialists carry out on the SP stations is most diverse. They measure the temperature of the water at different depths in the ocean and take soil samples to find out the shape of the sea bed and its geological history. They gather plankton and explore the temperature regimen of the ice and of the layer of air right above the ice, the intensity of the solar radiation for the study of the heat exchange between the surface of the ocean and the atmosphere, etc.

The results of the research by the Soviet Polar explorers are first of all important for practical needs, such as making the weather forecasts more precise and providing for confident prediction of the ice regimen in the northern Soviet seas crossed by the marine transport lanes. No less serious contribution is made by them to the solution of the global problems, like a study of the atmosphere and the circulation of the waters in the World Ocean and search for possible changes of the Earth's climate.

A new model of the Sakartvelo

A new model of the Sakartvelo (Georgia) is being built by the workers of the Sakartvelo film studio. The first samples have left the continuous production line of the Gruzelmach plant.

The greatest merit of the new machine is that it can pick the leaf on steep (up to 12°) mountain slopes. Its output is 20 per cent higher than that of its predecessor. It also has better manoeuvrability.

Enterprises of Georgia (a republic in Soviet Transcaucasia) manufacture more than 20 different machines which perform practically all the operations from tea cultivation to its picking. The technique of growing tea in the mountains is well developed. There are aggregates with mounted devices that are automatically set in motion.

Round the Soviet Union

● FAST SHIPS HAVE SET OUT FROM LATVIAN PORTS DESTINED FOR VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD TO DELIVER LETTERS, PARCELS AND NEW YEAR TREES TO SAILORS AND FISHERMEN WORKING FAR AWAY FROM THE SOVIET SHORES. The crews are looking forward to seeing videocassettes and films made in their families during their absence, and to hearing concerts recorded on tapes of their requests.

● THE FIRST ONE MILLION KILOWATT POWER BLOCK AT THE ZAPOROZHIE NUCLEAR POWER STATION HAS BEEN CONNECTED TO THE SOVIET UNIFIED POWER GRID. The project is being erected with maximum industrialization of all the processes which enable the builders to commission one power block every year.

Barrels float across the ocean

Where should the barrels float? Until recently this question did not bother timber firm workers in Dnipro (Orion Region of Central Russia). However, the enterprise's return address (U.S.A. Hollywood) surprised even the most experienced workers. The fact is that the Ministry of Timber Industry of the Russian SFSR had asked the Dnipro workers to prepare 75 large barrels needed by American film makers for the shooting of an historical film about Peter the Great. Consignments given by elderly local inhabitants and materials from Mosfilm studio archives helped fulfil this unusual order. Not long ago the goods of these experienced local residents were accepted by the customers as "excellent" and were shipped across the ocean.

well prepared for their design and use. For this purpose we should comprehensively train researchers, and people who work with and maintain computers. Higher schools, the Znanie Society and computer centres should be drawn into this important work — in short, we should use all the possible channels to popularize knowledge of the fundamentals of the information theory and learning the principles of electronic computer operation.

A primary acquaintance with the possibilities of computers and principles of their operation are necessary in secondary and vocational training schools.

THERE IS NO TRUTH WITHOUT BELIEF

The longer I work in dramatic art the clearer I understand why it is called the most difficult genre; writes playwright Vladimir Arto in the SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA newspaper. The most difficult thing is what is open and well formulated — the famous triad — a blend of the social, psychological and dramatic truth. But how is one to capture this truth so necessary for man today? Inquires the author. Indeed, the "Vocabulary of Epithets" has nearly 80 definitions of a word "truth", such as "little", "in consolation", "a whole spectrum of them. I think, the author notes, that what is needed today is a truth which induces man to doing things and is based on his beliefs and convictions.

Critics have noted that modern authors willingly draw on plays by Chekhov, having the insuperable desire to identify with Chekhovian spirituality, aesthetics and even the exterior attributes of his plays. True, the enticement is great but I think that the "link of times" here is more involved and more principled, as it were. Chekhov believed that a person could become better if you showed him what he must be like. Hence, this vision and belief must emerge through the truth of man to his first and obligatory stage on the way of man to his supreme destination. Without the truth there is no belief — this tradition of Chekhovian art is indeed of concern to many modern playwrights. I can name plays which leave the spectator quite at a loss, tired and even played out by the hours spent with the company in tormenting and blindfold searches of truth.

The truth suffered by the spectator and obtained in labour together with the theatre will inevitably take root in his soul and become part of his world outlook. Belief and, ultimately, will be transformed in his deeds via complex and indirect avenues.

CRUISES BY SOVIET SHIPS

Soviet passenger ships have made cruises from Australia's east coast to the Pacific Ocean. The "Mikhail Lermontov" ship will soon set off from Sydney to New Zealand and the islands of Oceania. Similar cruises which are to last till next year will be done by the Soviet liner "Alexander Pushkin", a TASS correspondent has been told by Vladimir Petrov, director of the Soviet ship Morpashot amalgam.

Morpashot has just marked 20th anniversary: in autumn 1969 in cooperation with the firm Transocean it arranged its first cruise. Transocean is one of the most active partners of the organization, said Petukhov. Transocean (FRG), Italtur (Italy), C.T.C. (Belgium) have been cooperating with the Soviet organization more than ten years now. The cruise ships visited 25 countries in the Pacific. Morpashot clients also visited the world's cruises of Mediterranean, Indian, Caribbean, and the coast of Alaska.

MASTERPIECES

Famous rhymes—3rd-century found during excavations in Nisa, former capital of the Parthian Empire, near Ashgabat—have been sent to the restoration. Rhymes have been in the all archaeological catalogues of the world as fine pieces of ancient art. These rhymes, carved on elephant tusks, were used for special occasions.



QUALITY, COST-SAVING WEAVING OF CLOTH AND FABRICS OF ALL KINDS: COTTON, WOOLLEN, SILK, LINEN

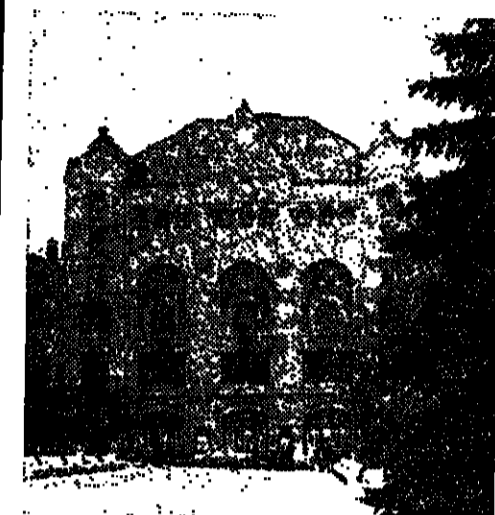
AUTOMATIC LOOM WITH WEFT MICRO-INSERTER STB SERIES

● Main shaft rpm to 200
● Weaving width, cm 180, 220, 250, 280, 330, 360, 390
● Weft color, change mechanism — four colors
● Shed control — tapped motion 10 heads
● Dobby 14/18 heads
● Yarn handled, No. 10 to 200

CHIMASHEXPORT

Places to visit

POLYTECHNIC MUSEUM



The building of this museum was erected stage by stage: at first (in 1873-1877) its central part with big steep staircases. Later (in 1880) the right-hand portion facing the monument to the heroes of Plevna — was added. Finally, the left-hand part was completed, with an auditorium with seats for 1,000 people where the first lecture was given on October 11, 1907. The exhibits of the museum are displayed in 60 halls. Over 40,000 of them reflect the basic stages in the development of technology and natural sciences.

SCHOOL OF ARTS FOR CHILDREN

The Ballet School in Kiev, the capital of the Ukraine, now has a junior "brother" — a ballet school for children. About a hundred children aged 6-9 years have enrolled in the preparatory and

Science and technology

TRACTOR FOR STEEP SLOPES

Scientists and students at Byelorussian Polytechnic have designed a tractor specifically for steep mountain slopes. A pilot tractor has recently been assembled. Though it incorporates much of the famous Belarus, on a hill slope its advantages are quite obvious—even on a 24° slope its cabin remains in the normal position and wheels go up and down depending on the inclination. This tractor is believed to be very efficient in the foothills lacking roads and having large vineyards, orchards and tea plantations.

MYSTERIES OF STONE PILLARS

Scholars have taken a new look of one of the historical monuments in Armenia which dates back to the second millennium before the Christian era. The mysterious stone rings known as "the stone house" in the vicinity of the village of Angakhot, can be regarded as an ancient observatory, they say. There are similar well-known stones which have helped understand the purpose of the stones. More than nine hundred stone rings reminiscent of the Angakhot's are found in England. These include the famous

Stonehenge which scholars believe 1,800 years before the Christian era had served as a peculiar calculating device for predicting moon eclipses. The remarkable similarity between these two monuments prompted the scholars that the Angakhot rings were used in astronomy to observe the sun and the moon. Some of the rings at Angakhot have holes through which it was possible to observe the daily luminary on certain days of the year. The astronomical knowledge of the peoples who lived in those places has been confirmed by the excavation of the Minor Mesamor Hill not far from Yerevan where archaeologists have found an ancient observatory. Besides pictures showing the solar system testify to the considerable amount of knowledge amassed by their authors in astronomy were recently found in the Gegama mountains also in Armenia.

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ACCELERATED RESEARCH

Scientists at the Byelorussian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Physiology have devised an automatic method of studying the mechanism of nervous conduction. They have built instruments based on microelectronic computers which have accelerated research work dozens of times. This will help reduce the period of time needed to develop new medical preparations and evaluate methods of treating a number of ailments. The method can be applied to other branches of science.

VIEWPOINT

Elections

Alexander GUBER

February 24 is the date of elections to the Supreme Soviets of Union and Autonomous Republics and to local Soviets. 160 million or so voters will elect over two million deputies.

Under the Constitution all power in the USSR belongs to the people which exercise it through the Soviets of people's deputies forming the political basis of the state. All other state authorities are controlled by and accountable to the Soviets.

Preparation for the elections is in full swing. More than eight million factory and office workers and farmers are on election commissions. Meetings of labour collectives and public organizations among their candidates nominate their candidates and the Soviet state and the best rank-and-file workers, world-known scientists and farmers of various ages, occupations, nationalities, men and women.

The composition of the Soviet deputy corps, both present and the future one, fairly fully reflects the social and national composition of Soviet society. The deputies represent all the hundred-plus nations and nationalities of the land. Nearly 70 per cent of the deputies are workers and farmers, a third — young people, a half — women. 57 per cent of the deputies are non-party people.

A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held in Moscow on December 20 devoted to the elections. Answering questions was Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Tenglis Menteshashvili.

He said, among other things, that elections in the Soviet Union are financed by the state alone. For instance, 12 million roubles were set aside to this end in the Russian Federation. He further made the point that our deputies draw no salaries for their duty but are reimbursed for the expenses incurred by such duties. The compensation figure for a Supreme Soviet deputy is roughly equivalent to the average earnings of a factory or office worker.

One foreign correspondent asked about the current work of former Chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces deputy Nikolai Ogarkov. The answer was that Marshal Ogarkov holds a responsible position in the USSR Defence Ministry and is still deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Menteshashvili further said that many of our laws are born of the mandate given by voters to their deputies. One example is the Law on Nature Protection in the Far North adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet at its latest session. It was sponsored by voters who mandated the deputies to do so.

Menteshashvili also stressed that in this country deputies may be recalled by their voters before their term of office expires. There were roughly 10,000 such instances since 1955 when the law on recall was passed. The figure is fairly small compared with the total number of deputies but is quite eloquent still. It tells us the Soviet people remain accountable to their voters in the period between elections.

Naturally, this is not the only way to recall a deputy. Any citizen who has deeply considered the work of a deputy and is not satisfied with the fulfilment of his duties, or even the fulfilment of his duties, can recall him. This is a very important principle of our system.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

1984—A RECORD YEAR FOR THE GAS INDUSTRY

This year, the gas industry will achieve an impressive record: growth of gas extraction amounting to more than 50,000 million cubic metres. A few months earlier than scheduled the daily production of 1,000 million cubic metres-level will be reached in the Tyumen Region where the main pipelines of the gas are located. Another remarkable event of the year is the commissioning, also ahead of schedule, of the Urengoi-Centre-1 transcontinental gas pipeline.

This line, which is more than three thousand kilometres long, has increased the pumping of gas from Urengoi to the industrial areas in the Urals, the Volga-side, and the Centre by tens of millions of cubic metres every day, reports the newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA.

What made this great achievement in the gas industry possible?

In the first place, writes the newspaper, this was facilitated by research and development. In the Siberian gas fields effective use is being made of gas preparation installations with a performance of twenty thousand million cubic metres of gas a year. The gas transportation systems are being equipped with Soviet-made pumping machines with capacities of 16 and 25 MW.

Apart from the big unit power rating, the modern equipment has a number of other substantial advantages such as comparatively smaller oil consumption, greater service life and higher automation. Perhaps, the chief merit of the new technology lies in that it is made in the shape of larger blocks ready for use.

Successfully implemented is the industry's programme for the automation of the processes for extraction and transportation of gas.

In the future, automatic machines will be able to take over completely in controlling the preparation of gas for further transportation.

NATIONWIDE MEDICAL CHECK-UPS

The USSR is introducing total health check-ups for the entire population. In what way does this large-scale medical examination benefit the nation? The

USSR Health Minister Sergei Burenkov answers this question in an article in the newspaper TRUD.

One important thing in medicine is that a disease can be more easily prevented than treated. This truth reflects the essence of this exercise to be undertaken — i.e., annual medical examinations of the entire population, writes the minister.

Indeed, it is a major preoccupation for doctors to find out the hazards that can lead to disease. One of these is increased lipoproteins in the blood which prompts the doctor that a patient is threatened with atherosclerosis, one of the most cruel diseases. Such diseases as glaucoma, high blood pressure, sugar diabetes, and many others can also be quite easily detected at their early stage. It should be said that in order to remove the factors of hazard, treatment is not always required. At times it is enough to warn the patient that his cure depends on him, and to help him live on the most rational diet and get rid of harmful habits.

Attempts at sweeping medical examinations were made in this country in the 1920s and 1930s, notes the author. Yet at that time, the material basis of the health services and medical personnel were too weak. In the 70s large-scale scientific experiments were carried out in this same direction. By the end of 1983, 58 million people were under constant medical supervision, while annual preventive examinations involved check-ups on 117 million people, or at least half of the population. Stage by stage, it is planned to include all children and grown-ups in such medical check-ups during the next five-year plan period that is between 1985 and 1990.

A SECOND LITERACY OF THE 20th CENTURY

Computer literacy, Moscow University Professor B. Gnedonko claims in IZVESTIYA, is now another literacy of this century in the way of electronic computers. development good machines have been designed, programming personnel trained and large-scale research bills are undertaken. Now the understanding of the possibilities of modern computers and mastery of the elements of computer operation must be made universal. This is a large measure promotes continued scientific, technological and engineering progress, as well as the application of new technical ideas.

This is especially important now that we are on the threshold of fifth-generation machines. We must be

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

TATYANA YERASTOVA

A few years ago, the Operatic Studio at Leningrad Conservatoire staged Mikhail Reukhberg's opera, "The Little Red Riding Hood". Among the characters the Fox was outstanding — a crafty, plastic and feminine. The part was performed by Tatyana Yerastova, a student of the singing department. At the same time, she could be seen as Siebel in Charles Gounod's opera, "Faust". It was in those years at the Conservatoire that the young singer's remarkable qualities and her gift as an actress became revealed.

When the Bolshoi company in Moscow staged a new production of Rimsky-Korsakov's opera, "The Snow Maiden", the producers — conductor Alexander Lazarev and director Boris Rezonovskikh invited Tatyana, then a little-known singer for the part of Lel. To many, this was an unexpected decision, but when the opera was given its first performance, we saw Lel as if this little shepherd had stepped down from Russian fairy tales or paintings. He, or she rather, was tickle, mischievous, whimsical, and tender by turns, a fellow who had fallen deeply in love with the Snow Maiden ascertained by Mligr. Yerastova sings Lel's songs beautifully and with feeling. At times, one forgets that it is a musician, not a singer, who is playing a flute, so strong is the impression created by the singer. Later, other singers tackled Lel in this production, yet Yerastova's remains the best.

Her other success was the part of Sonetka in Dmitri Shostakovich's "Katerina Izmailova". Yerastova's new interpretation of this part turned it from something inconspicuous in the previous productions into rather significant, as she interpreted it in a peculiar, interesting way.

In opera, Tatyana Yerastova not merely sings her lines properly. Both conductors and directors say that on the stage she proceeds from the music to the character. Apart from her acting techniques, art directors also commend the young singer's "professional knack". She understands their ideas at once and finds appropriate scenic expression for them. She had the same approach in the operas at the Maly Opera and Ballet in Leningrad a member of whose company she was after leaving the Conservatoire. She sang Ganna in Rimsky-Korsakov's "May Night". Neither has she changed her approach at the Bolshoi. Her Milovzor is sweet and charming in Tchaikovsky's "The Queen of Spades". In general, Yerastova is good at parts when she has to impersonate men. On the other hand, in Cluck's "Phigeneia on Aulide" she appears as Cillemeistra creating a majestic character.

Her next part is Vanya in the opera, "Ivan Susanin", Amneris in "Aida", and some more. Margarita ANOKHINA



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UKRAINIAN DANCERS BACK HOME FROM SYRIA

The Shevchenko Opera and Ballet Theatre from the Ukraine has just returned from a tour of the Syrian Arab Republic. The Ukrainian performers were honoured to inaugurate the 7th International Arts Festival in the ancient city of Bosra which is traditionally held by the Syrian Ministry of Culture.

The Soviet dancers immediately felt the friendliness and sincere interest of their Syrian audiences. Before the performance began, the Minister of Culture and National Orientation, Najah al-Aitter, noted:

As a rule, the festival in Bosra is opened up by the masters of Soviet arts. This was previously done by ballet companies from Moscow and Leningrad. Today, we are happy to wel-

come ballet dancers from Kiev, and we are expecting much from their appearances. The Arts Festival in Bosra is very popular. This autumn, the stands of the ancient open-air theatre accommodated 15,000 spectators. The repertoire of the Soviet dancers included the ballet, "Ciselle" and a number of concert programmes such as the one-act ballet "Papula", excerpts from "Swan Lake", "Don Quixote", and "The Song of the Woods".

The Ukrainian dancers also took part in cultural activities as part of the events at Damascus International Trade Fair and danced in a number of major Syrian cities. A meeting at the Soviet Cultural Centre in Damascus turned into a festival of Soviet-Syrian friendship.

ARTISTS ABOUT MOLDAVIA



N. Epstein, "We Have Blue Skies Above"

In the rooms of the Central Artists Club in Moscow, an exhibition is held, "The Arts of Soviet Moldavia" dedicated to the 60th anniversary since the establishment of that constituent republic. The display comprises nearly 800 paintings, graphic sheets, sculptures, and decorative, applied and folk art works by more than 200 authors.

Contemporary life is the main theme of the exhibition. In many works, their expression have found such themes as the creation of a generalized image of the native land, the rural subject which has become traditional and most close to a majority of artists, the industrial subject to which artists are resorting increasingly in recent times, and the subject of love and motherhood.

No less actively the Moldavian artists are working in the traditional genres of landscape, still life and portrait.

The exhibition of the decorative, applied and folk arts demonstrates the life power of the folk traditions and their creative refraction. The display also includes a section of folk applied art of Moldavia and a section which familiarizes the visitors with the activities of the association of folk artists, artists, which mass-produces items made of the traditional materials used in the Moldavian folk art — wickerwork from vines, articles made of leather and ceramics, homespun cloths, lace, embroidery and carpets.

Giovanni Viotti musical competition ends

For several weeks the town of Vercelli (northern Italy) was the venue of the 35th International Competition of Music and Dance held in honour of the famous Italian violinist, composer and teacher Giovanni Battista Viotti (1755-1824). The competition is held annually in four or five genres of music and is today one of the most popular events in the world.

The vocal competition ended in a complete and indisputable victory for Soviet singers. A. Davtyan of Yerevan, and Muscovites M. Krutikov and P. Skumichenko won the first, second and third prizes respectively. Araksia Davtyan has been

invited, in accordance with the terms of the competition, to sing on the famous Arena di Verona. Soviet musicians also won the competition of chamber ensembles. A. Vinnitsky and V. Orshnikov won the first prizes, while A. Arskov and M. Fedorov took the second prize.

There was another victory as well: Muscovite Oleg Volkov won the first prize and Leningrader Pavel Zarukin had the second prize in the competition of pianists which climaxed the whole event.

Altogether, the Viotti Competition (it is in four stages) drew 87 pianists from 17 countries this year and lasted ten days.

LVOV THEATRE BACK TO LIFE

A new page in the history of the Lvov's Franko Academic Opera and Ballet Theatre in the Ukraine has been opened with Karminsky's heroic opera, "Ten Days That Shook the World". The magnificent theatre building has opened its doors to music and ballet lovers after an intermission that lasted seven years. The theatre has been thoroughly reconstructed.

It was built in 1900 in the style of Viennese Renaissance. Famous artists such as S. Kr-

sholnitskaya, A. Mishuga, M. Zankovetskaya, M. Baitshini and E. Caruso appeared on its stage. The stucco ornaments are glittering again like gold, the mosaic floor shines in the light of the beautiful chandeliers. All the paintings and sculptures have been restored. The mirror-ornamented auditorium looks as beautiful as when it was built. The rehearsal and make-up rooms look new. New sound and other equipment has been installed.



The play, "The Betrothal" by Maurice Maeterlinck has been staged by the Pushkin Drama Theatre in Moscow. A scene from the play. Photo by Mikhail Stokov

WHAT'S ON!

December 25-28

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin), 26 — A concert by the Byelorussian dance ensemble. 28 — A concert by the Armenian song and dance ensemble. Bolshoi Theatre performance: 25 — Adam, "Ciselle" (ballet). Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 25 — Musorgsky, "Boia Codub-nov" (opera). 26 — Shchedrin, "The Sea Gull" (ballet). 27 — Musorgsky, "Khovanshchina" (opera). 28 — Glazunov, "Raimonda" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 26 — Shostakovich, "Katerina Izmailova" (opera). 27 — Tchaikovsky, "Swan Lake" (ballet). 28 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet). 28 (eve) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "May Night" (opera). Operatic Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.), 25 — Kalman, "The Gypsy Princess". 26 — Strauss, "Long Live the Waltz". 27 (mat), 28 (mat, and aft) — Ziv, "The Seven Soldiers". 27 (eve) — Milyutin, "Girls in a Flurry". 28 (eve) — Ziv, "Messieurs Artistes".

FILMS

How to Become Famous (Molodtsov Film Studio). The film is about a girl and her two male rivals. Cinema: "Kiebov". Yurykh Leninov St. Metro Tekstilshchiki. New Adventures of the "low Rose" (Romania). The film features the last century's struggle for liberation. Cinema: "Yarovna" (28) (ballet). "Yarovna" (28) (ballet). "Yarovna" (28) (ballet). "Yarovna" (28) (ballet).

EXHIBITIONS

USSR Artists Union (25 Gorky St.). The third exhibition from the Syrian Arab Republic — paintings and drawings in different styles. Daily, except Mondays, from 1 p.m. till 8 p.m. Saturday — from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. Metro: Pushkinskaya. USSR Academy of Arts (Kropotkinskaya St.). An exhibition of works by artists and poets. Daily, from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. (1988-1974). About 40 paintings.

BUSINESS

Czechoslovak exhibition at 'Praga' cinema

Sparkling with iridescent facets is the Czech crystal glass known throughout the world, and there is glittering china and delicate tableware decked with handpainted pictures. Next on the stand are various books and records produced in Czechoslovakia and light industry articles such as vests in all colours, knitwear and sports gear. All these items can be seen at an exhibition which has opened at the "Praga" cinema theatre in Moscow.

In a conversation with our correspondent, General Secretary of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Chamber of Commerce Josef Cerny said:

"This exhibition is a sort of account about how the cooperation between the Czechoslovak Republic and the USSR developed over the past forty years. The Soviet Union helped in the restoration of the Czechoslovak economy ruined in the years of the German occupation.

I remember, for instance, the construction of the Eastern Slovakia Complex with assistance from the USSR. There have been many projects like this in Czechoslovakia. During the years of this cooperation, Czechoslovakia became one of the major consumers of Soviet iron ore, zinc, copper, lead, aluminium, cotton and grain and also a major importer of Soviet-made machines and equipment. A major role is played by the economy of our country in the economy of Soviet deliveries of oil and gas. Over the first ten years of the Friendship pipeline in operation, for example, the Czechoslovak economy managed to save a sum equal to the cost of the construction of a modern petrochemical complex. Czechoslovak farmers are using hundreds of thousands of Soviet-made tractors, combined harvesters and other machines. Czechoslovak mines and pits use Soviet cutting and loading coal machines and excavators.

Siemens' business propositions

This year the West German Siemens AG has marked two jubilees at once — a decade of the firm's accreditation in the USSR and five years since the creation in the USSR of a joint venture for automation Minpribor-Siemens AG.

Says the firm's Moscow office Werner Kuttner: our centre is a conglomerate of sorts pushing along our joint ideas and plans in automation both in the USSR and in West Germany. We also give much attention to automation projects in the countries which use the equipment of other of us.

Siemens is not a newcomer of the Soviet market, offering production automation, various electrical equipment, power stations and their components, customers, lots of medical devices, including the Somatom computer tomography system, X-ray apparatuses, equipment for dental's rooms, etc., data processing equipment and intercom, electric and electronic instruments, lighting

engineering, tubes, lamps, cables and wiring sets. Thus, only recently we supplied a special spotlight device to the Moscow Stanislavsky Theatre.

The USSR is a reliable trading partner, stresses Kuttner. We businessmen rely little on the emotions and more on figures. West Germany is the Soviet Union's leading trading partner in the West. One more indication of our excellent business relations is the fact that our bilateral trade annually rises an average 13 per cent and not the least due to the cooperation between our firm and your foreign trade organizations.

I have always been convinced, he continues, that commercial relations on a mutually beneficial basis are a reliable and sure way towards normal and, most important, peaceful political relations. Mutual economic interest is one of the more important factors promoting world peace.

Vladimir BOGDANOV

The first steps of Demaco

At the Moscow office of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council (ASTEC) Demaco company recently held a technical seminar on the use of its equipment in the food industry, specifically pasta-producing machines.

Demaco, an MNI correspondent was told by International trade department official Robert d'Enliffe, is a tyro on the Soviet market. The first contacts were established last year, when our company attended the Agrobusiness-USA show in Moscow. Then we signed a contract for delivery to the USSR of a press for a pasta factory in Kiev.

Demaco shows a sincere desire to cooperate with partners in the USSR, and this is why the company, in the same 1983, entered the Council. This year we showed our equipment at the International Exhibition in Alma Ata. We see the current seminar not only as an exchange of technical information but also as a good opportunity for establishing new business contacts which we already have, say, with V/O Technopromimport. But our plans are not limited by our desire to sell our machines to the USSR. We could set up industrial cooperation, based on manufacture in the USSR of equipment under our licence with its subsequent use by both Soviet consumers and third countries.

Contacts and contracts

© The 43rd meeting in Havana of the CMEA Standing Commission on Cooperation in the Field of Light Industry held in Havana discussed the problems of better providing the population of the CMEA nations with quality consumer goods and furniture and considered the main guidelines for the development of the light, woodworking and the printing industry in 1986-1990.

© In Havana, its 64th meeting has been completed by the Standing CMEA Commission on Cooperation in the Field of Chemical Industry. The delegates who attended the meeting have discussed the main directions in the further development of the industry, and examined questions pertaining to coordination of the plans for 1986-1990.

PEOPLE, EVENTS, FACTS

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KOSAKU KATO: 'WE WANT ACTIVE TRADE'

The Kato Think Tank company, which is a member of the Association of Japanese-Soviet trade, has considerably increased its goods turnover with Soviet partners. Kosaku Kato, president of the company, has maintained business relations with them for many years.

We are always looking for new goods in the USSR, he says.

For example, the company is now buying Soviet integrated circuits. In turn, said Michihito Hamano, head of the Moscow office, we are supplying the USSR with industrial accessories, heat exchangers, ball cocks for gas pipes. We completed the year with a growth of almost 15 per cent.

A HUNDRED TOURS FOR JAPANESE GUESTS

A recent Soviet-Japanese meeting in Moscow on development of tourism discussed possibilities for more active bilateral tourist exchange.

Intourist news

Terrible motor ships on the Volga, and the Central Asian tour of ancient, silk route. Japanese firms have shown interest in new tours. Too, like those around the Caucasus, to the producing regions, and by special trains along the Trans-Siberian railway. Soviet tours, including Japanese, feature visits to museums and theatres, ancient, historical and spiritual sites, cruises aboard com-

SPORTS



Captain of the Soviet team Vyacheslav Fetisov with the victory cup. ● A scene from the match USSR-Europe. A difficult moment at the goal of the goalkeeper of the Europe team Jiri Kralk of Czechoslovakia. ● Vladislav Tretyak for the last time on the big ice. Photos by Andrei Knyazev

Tretyak, Vasilyev and Maltsev transfer relay...

A low low to you, hockey fans! Such were the words of Vladislav Tretyak directed to the crammed stands of the Moscow Palace of Sport in Leningrad during an unusual intermission in the first period of the match between the USSR and Europe. This match of the two teams made up of players—participants of the international "Izvestia" Prize tournament — was devoted to the completion of performance in big sport by many-line Olympic, world and European champions, Soviet hockey players: 32-year-old goalkeeper Vladislav Tretyak, 35-year-old defender Valery Vasilyev and

attacker Alexander Maltsev. For the last time they played ten minutes for the Soviet team in this match. And played as though they were in their best form. Symbolically, the first goal against the European team was scored by young forward Sergei Svetlov who received the puck as though a relay from his older Moscow Dynamo teammates Vasilyev and Maltsev. Tretyak also came off the ice undefeated. The final score of the first ever match between the USSR and European teams is 7-3 in Soviet favour. The entire proceeds from this interesting game, as suggested by its participants,

went to the Peaco Fund.

The day before, only the last day of the tournament determined the award winners of this 18th tournament. The Olympic, world and European champions the USSR totted eight points out of eight possible. In the decisive game the USSR beat 1984 Olympic silver medallists Czechoslovakia 5-0. The winners have the best goal difference of 25-1. Czechoslovakia, Finland and Sweden totalled four points each and their tables situation had to be decided by the goal difference. The last finishers were West Germany who lost all their four games.

The best players determined on the results of the tournament were: goalkeeper Vladimir Myshkin (USSR), defender Bo Ericsson (Sweden) and attacker Vincent Lukac (Czechoslovakia). The top scorer of the tournament is attacker Vladimir Krutov (USSR).

Next the tournament participants will attend the world and European championships in Prague on April 17-May 3, 1985.

Meanwhile Soviet players will play for their clubs in various New Year international tournaments.

Alexander BUTSENIN

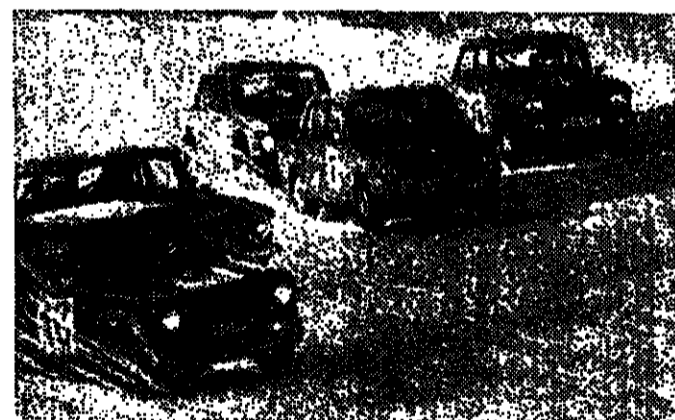
CHESS PLAYERS VIE FOR EUROPEAN CUP

It is not so long ago when Alexander Belyavsky, a Grandmaster from Lvov, led the Soviet national team to the Greek city of Saloniki for the World Chess Olympiad. Now, in Moscow, he is heading another — a club team this time. As member of the Trud voluntary sports society, Belyavsky is playing in the final match of the best European chess club championship against rivals of Burevestnik. These two Soviet teams proved the heat after all the elimination contests in which chess players of the Old World participated. That is why, regardless of the outcome of the match, the honorary trophy will remain in the Soviet Union. The three-day match is going on at the USSR Central Chess Club.

'RACE OF STARS'

Over 30,000, or nearly half the residents of our town, came to see this interesting event, Vladislav Slesarev, Chairman of the Executive Council of the town of Gus-Khrustalny, told an MN correspondent. Stated here was the 7th traditional "Race of stars" for the prize of the "Za Rulom" magazine attended by top Soviet racers — national

champions, winners and award winners of major international tournaments. Gus-Khrustalny is part of the renowned Golden Ring, which excites much interest on the part of Soviet and foreign tourists. In this small town there are lots of places of interest: some 250 interesting architectural structures of the late 18th



A moment of the race.



Winner of the race Nikolai Bolshikh. Photos by Alexei Fyodorov

and early 19th centuries, several buildings were built by renowned architect Benus.

The fans who came to see the event, were not tricked by their expectations. The exciting and full of dramatic races were held on the ice of a lake. Altogether there were 16 heats, six racers in each. Far from all the participants came to finish. There were some overruns,

MICHEL HIDALGO: FRANCE CHIEF FAVOURITES

Former French national football team chief coach Michel Hidalgo, who led the French to the European title last summer and is now in Brazil, told a Rio press conference that since he had left his post after the European championship he saw many national teams in action. Watching them I invariably concluded that France will be a hot favourite for the 1988 world cup in Mexico. The French play fast, ingeniously and have good technique. Our last year European junior championship success shows we have strong reserves, too, he claimed.

On the current state of football in Brazil, he said, it was in a crisis. The best local players were sold to Italian clubs and are factually lost to Brazilian football, while the young have not yet reached the level necessary for success in major events like the world cup.

Football's future, Hidalgo contends, rests with midfielders, whose skill in attack and defence will clinch the games. Among the best of the current crop he named Frenkel, Platini and Brazilian Junior, who are now, incidentally, with Italian clubs.

Vladimir McMILLIN

For 'Crystal Globe'

After a win by Bojan Kizic (Yugoslavia) in the Madonna di Campiglio special slalom, Mark Girardelli's victory in the super giant slalom and ascentment of the "combinations", the tables are still led by last year's trophy holder Pirmin Zurbriggen (Switzerland) with 104 points.

Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein has 95 points.

The gap between Marina Kish of West Germany and her nearest rivals has increased. After the giant slalom at Santa Caterina (Italy) she now has 70 points, and second and third placed Erika Hess and Brigitte Oertli, both of Switzerland, have 59 and 54 points respectively.

100. The winner is Moscow racer Nikolai Bolshikh.

The "Race of stars" justifying its name—attending it are nearly all the country's top racers, said Nikolai Bolshikh. And to win it is honorable and extremely difficult. As my brother Igor says, who is also a racer, this is a race of motor skills, tactical skills. And possibly good fortune. This time it was on my side.

Gennady LEONOV



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